

# FOCUS

## On West Purbeck

Summer 2023

Liberal  
Democrats

## STOP THE SEWAGE SPILLS: PROTECT OUR RIVERS AND SHORELINES

**Local Liberal Democrats** are calling on Wessex Water to stop the sewage spills which are blighting our beaches and rivers.

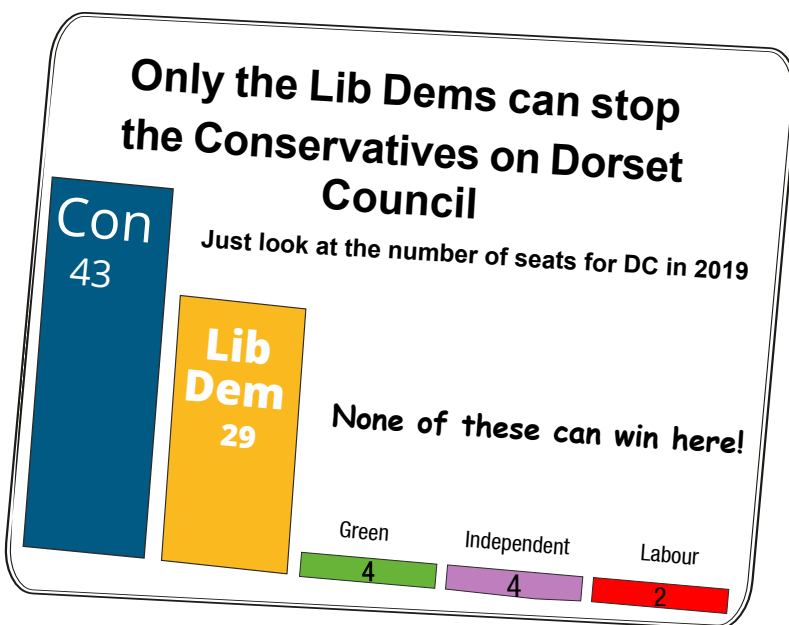
Data from the Rivers Trust show sewage spills across our area in 2022, including 30 spills totalling 166 hours from the Morris Rd pumping station in Bovington into a tributary of the River Frome. Even worse Wessex Water did not even monitor spills into the River Frome in Wool.

Liberal Democrats have been calling for the Government to legislate so water companies are obliged to stop these sewer spills and for the water companies themselves to foot the bill rather than pushing up bills for consumers.

Water Companies have been paying out billions of pounds in dividends instead of investing to stop these sewage spills.



## LIB DEM LOCAL ELECTION SUCCESS - DORSET COUNCIL NEXT



**Liberal Democrats** in neighbouring Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council made dramatic gains in May's local elections gaining 15 seats to become the largest party on the Council with more than twice as many Councillors as the Conservatives who lost well over half their existing Councillors. Local people turned to the Liberal Democrats as the party with a clear focus on improving local services and the only credible challenger to the Tories.

**Cllr Nick Ireland, Leader of the Liberal Democrats on Dorset Council** said "In Dorset next May (just as in BCP Council this May) it will be a clear choice between a Tory or a Liberal Democrat Council. 29 Liberal Democrat Cllrs were elected at the last elections in 2019 and Labour, Green and

Independents combined only got 10 Councillors. If you don't want five more years of Tory cuts to local services then the Liberal Democrats are the only logical choice"

If you would like to help us defeat the Tories in Dorset next May get in touch via the contact details on the back page.

## Liberal Democrats working for you



# End the Dental desert: Improve access to NHS dentistry in Purbeck

**Liberal Democrats** nationally are campaigning to end dental deserts. A report from HealthWatch Dorset in February has identified just how bad the situation is in our local area. At the end of 2022 no NHS dentists were taking on new adult patients in Dorset and the report highlighted the Purbeck area having a particular lack of dentist provision.

Nationally fewer than 1 in 2 children saw an NHS dentist in the last year and only a third of adults saw an NHS dentist in the last two years.

Liberal Democrats are calling on the government to:

- Spend the £400m which was underspent on NHS dental services last year on an emergency programme of support
- Reform and increase funding for the NHS dental services contract to incentivise dentists to take on NHS patients.
- Increase the number of dentist training places
- Launch an emergency scheme to ensure children, pregnant women and young mothers have access to free check ups on time.

**We want to know what your experience has been of trying to get NHS dentistry treatment locally. Let us know using the contact details below.**



## LIB DEM SUCCESS FOR CARERS

**Liberal Democrats** have successfully passed through Parliament a Carer's Leave Bill which will give an estimated 2.4 million carers across the UK a statutory right to take five days of unpaid leave per year helping carers better to balance work and care. The charity, Carers UK, described it as a 'landmark' piece of legislation and is part of our continued campaigning to stand up for the rights of carers.

## Let us know what you think:



**We are always keen to hear from you**  
**Email: [libdemssepurbeck@gmail.com](mailto:libdemssepurbeck@gmail.com)**  
**Phone: 07570291838**  
**Mail: 11, Streche Road,  
Swanage BH19 1NF**

**Please get in touch if you have an issue which you would like us to tackle or to tell us your views on any of the issues raised in this FOCUS.**

**And we always welcome residents who want to help us by distributing a few of these leaflets in your local area.**

## PUTTING COMMUNITY BEFORE POLITICS